



KSU students attend AIPAC Policy Conference

Six KSU students attended the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference in Washington, D.C., last month. Ralph Williams, Jordan Russell, Jabreia Taylor, Diamond Gordon, Cameron Beale and Nocomis Miner each represented the University as they expanded their knowledge of the world of politics. The students were selected because of their affiliation with the Student Government Association.

“There were approximately 18,000 people in attendance and 4,000 of them were college students,” explained Williams, a business administration major and SGA member. The AIPAC Policy Conference 2016 was held March 20 through March 22. The conference included several breakout sessions with topics ranging from the history of Israel, ISIS, LGBT issues in Israel to African-American leadership.

Miner, a senior Criminal Justice and Sociology major, is the campus liaison for AIPAC. He attended the conference in hopes of lobbying members of Congress. Lobbying appointments were made available for attendees to meet with their members of Congress and speak to them about issues of concern to the pro-Israel community.

“Attending this conference just showed me that there are a lot of things happening in the world today and if you don’t read or endeavor to find out, then you will be numb to them,” Miner said.

The mission of the lobbying group AIPAC is to strengthen, protect and promote the U.S.-Israel relationship in ways that enhance the security of the United States and Israel.

“I may not completely understand, just yet, all the things within AIPAC, but I do appreciate its work efforts,” said SGA president Gordon. “Since being introduced to AIPAC, it has increased my network group tremendously and has helped me stay in contact with



KSU students attend AIPAC in March.

other HBCU presidents. It’s such a blessing to be able to talk about issues with our universities, communities and now, other countries.”

The students agreed that the experience helped to enrich their studies in politics. “I feel like it is a great opportunity to get connected into the political realm and see the different sides when dealing with international affairs,” Gordon said.

A highlight of the trip was that students were also able to hear Vice President Joe Biden and presidential hopefuls Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump address the prominent group.

“Many of them talked about the importance of supporting our allies,” Williams said. “That’s one of the takeaways from the experience.”

“It was inspiring,” Williams said. “There were so many people there at the Verizon Center—people of different races, LGBT, young, old—a whole range of demographics and everyone there was so passionate and dedicated. It was something I really valued.”

KSU student calls Posters-at-the-Capitol ‘priceless’

FRANKFORT, KY — Combine Kentucky universities, STEM research, along with a mix of legislators, and it is a recipe for excitement for KSU student D’Andre Garrison, who is majoring in Agriculture, Food and Environment. Garrison calls his experience on February 25 at the Posters-at-the-Capitol “priceless.” “I would go again and again. I love representing Kentucky State University in a positive way,” he says. “Just having the opportunity to be around so many people that have the same interest as me and all those senators and politicians was priceless.”

Posters-at-the-Capitol is an annual event at the State Capitol, held to educate the Kentucky State Legislators of the importance of undergraduate research and scholarly work. The Governor proclaims the day to be Undergraduate Research Day across the Commonwealth thus providing students the opportunity to showcase at the Kentucky State Capitol building, projects involving cutting-edge research and scholarly achievements.

The Governor, members of the General Assembly and representatives are able to engage directly with some of Kentucky’s high-achieving students. Although considered topics included

were only within the sciences at one time, currently all areas of research and scholarly work are showcased at this event.

Garrison, who presented his project “Assessing Water Quality and Land Cover Change Kentucky River Watershed,” was congratulated State Senator and former Gov. Julian Carroll, the namesake of the Academic Services Building on KSU’s campus. He says that he was fortunate to see other student projects and learn from their discoveries. Garrison also used the event to tour the historic building, talk with potential employers and learn more about the memorials and statues, he says.

“I also had time to witness a live protest in front of the Capitol,” he says. “The entire day was filled with activities and surprises.”



Sen. Julian Carroll congratulates KSU student D’Andre Garrison at the Kentucky State Capitol.

KSU state specialist Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez named 2016 National Project Learning Tree Outstanding Educator



Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez

FRANKFORT – Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez, state specialist for sustainable programs and director of the Center for Environmental Education at Kentucky State University in Frankfort, was selected from nominees across the U.S. as one of five Outstanding Educators by Project Learning Tree® (PLT), the national environmental education program of the American Forest Foundation. This is the second time an educator from Kentucky has won the National PLT Outstanding Educator Award since its inception in 1994. In Kentucky, PLT is coordinated by the Kentucky Association of Environmental Education.

Hubbard-Sánchez is state specialist for sustainable programs and director of the Center for Environmental Education in the College of Agriculture, Food Science, and Sustainable Systems at Kentucky State University. In that role, she connects with Kentuckians of all ages, in both English and Spanish, with a special interest in teaching about climate change. She has been instrumental in making Kentucky PLT and the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education regional and national leaders in the field of environmental education.

Hubbard-Sánchez holds a B.A. in Spanish from Saint Michael’s College in Colchester, VT, an M.A. in anthropology from the Universidad de las Américas in Puebla, Mexico, and an M.S. in environmental studies from Kentucky State University. She became a Kentucky State-Certified Professional Environmental Educator in 2014 and was honored as Kentucky PLT’s Outstanding Educator in 2015.

“She goes above and beyond in organizing and conducting PLT and other EE workshops,” said Michelle Shane, Kentucky Department of Agriculture. “Her dedication and passion are an inspiration to many environmental educators, including me.”

Hubbard-Sánchez, along with the four other educators from around the country, will be honored at PLT’s 30th International Coordinators’ Conference, May 23-26, in Salt Lake City. She is also invited to attend the World Forestry Center’s International Educators’ Institute, July 10-16, in Portland, Oregon.